

PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501 Phone (951) 826-5147 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Thursday, January 28, 2008 Contact: Leon Phillips, Sergeant

Phone: (951) 826-5900

Takeover Robbery of Firearm Store

Riverside, CA -- At approximately 6:12 PM, on January 28, 2008, employees of the Centerfire Firearms store called the police to report they had been robbed by a group of armed men. The store is located in the 3500 block of Central Avenue in Riverside.

At 6:06 PM, four suspects rushed into the store and ordered everyone to lay on the floor. The suspects were armed with handguns and had their faces concealed. There were three customers and three employees in the store at the time of the robbery. None of them were injured during the hold-up. The suspects stole wallets from the customers and workers, and removed between 40-50 handguns from the display cases. They fled the store very quickly and ran to a car waiting on San Diego Avenue. The car left the area by driving southbound on San Diego from Central.

Detectives and Evidence Technicians were called to the store to process the scene for physical evidence, and to continue the investigation. The suspects were four African-American males wearing dark pants and jackets with hoods, ski masks, bandanas and sunglasses. Their car was described by a witness as a 2004-2005 Honda Accord four-door, with tinted windows and dark blue in color.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is urged to call Riverside Police Detective Mike Medici at (951) 353-7014 or Detective James Brandt at (951)353-7137.

